

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the final Office Action mailed October 2, 2008, in which Applicant's Claims 1, 3-7, 9 and 10 were allowed and Claims 11 and 12 were rejected. By way of this Response, Applicant's Claim 11 has been amended and Claim 12 has been cancelled. Reconsideration with respect to Claim 11 is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

I. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

On page 2 of the Office Action, Applicant's Claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,565,663 ("the Kossakowski reference").

Applicant's Claim 11 has been amended to include steps described by Applicant and not disclosed in Kossakowski. Applicants disclose "By pressing push buttons 42, 43 the associated locking element 34, 35 can be unlocked, for which a groove and tongue connection 51 is provided between the respective push button 42, 43 and the associated locking element 34, 35." (See [0036]). When engaged, the groove and tongue connection prevents the locking element from being deflected into a release position. As amended, the first step in Claim 11 recites " . . . releasing the groove and tongue connection by depressing the pushbutton actuator." In contrast, Kossakowski does not disclose releasing a groove and tongue connection that pins the locking element in place, preventing its movement into an unlocking or release position. Accordingly, because Kossakowski does not disclose releasing the groove and tongue connection, and as no additional reasons for rejection have been asserted against Applicant's independent Claim 11, it is therefore believed that Claim 11, as amended, is now in a condition for allowance.

Applicant's Claim 12 is cancelled.

II. Conclusion

Considering the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants respectfully request that Claim 12 be cancelled, and submit that rejected Claim 11 is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-11 be allowed.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

If, for some reason, Applicant has not paid a sufficient fee for this response, please consider this as authorization to charge INGRASSIA, FISHER & LORENZ, PC, Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,
INGRASSIA, FISHER & LORENZ, P.C.

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